Rebels Set Off Chain Reaction

Subway Strikers Win Their Point

By ROGER STONEBANKS

LONDON (CP)—As every student in history knows, the average Englishman considers it bad form to act in defiance of authority. And if authority must be defied, there are certain traditions to be followed.

So it was natural, when the bowler-hatted travelling public raised the umbrella of revolt against London's public transport system, that the operation took underground, the precedent being that of Guy Fawkes with his gunpowder in the basement of the Parliament Buildings 350 years ago.

ORDERED OFF

It all began Jan. 2, when passengers aboard a late-running suburban train were ordered off several stops short of its destination. Officials of London Transport wanted to turn it around to catch up with its schedule.

To most of the passengers, the experience was far from novel. But the train was warm, the platform cold and a dozen long-suffering riders simultaneously decided to stay put.

AWAY IT WENT

For 20 minutes, the baffled station staff argued with the recalcitrant 12 while traffic piled up on the line. Finally, the rebels had their way and the train moved off on its original rounds.

The incident, duly recorded in the morning papers, set off a chain reaction. In the next 10 days there were 12 sit down strikes by angry commuters.

The demonstrations were accompanied by a chorus of letters to the press complaining of arrogant, indifferent and sometimes surly station staffs.

Brian Harbour, a London Transport executive, explained the difficulties of moving 2,750,000 persons a day on the subway without mishap.

REASONS ARE GOOD

He conceded that an average of 18 trains a day fail to reach their destination but said the trains are not taken out of service without good reason and asked passengers to co-operate.

After 10 days of strikes, complaints and threats, the travellers won a partial victory.

London Transport announced that it accepted criticisms of insufficient information and that public address systems would be installed at stations to keep people informed.

If It's in Process, Case Is Hopeless

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (UPI)—Here's some fresh ammunition in the war on gobbledygook.

These gibes at bureaucratic lingo were put together by California Motor Vehicles Department employee Elzy Wright, of Daly City, and published in the department's monthly bulletin.

It is in process—So wrapped up in red tape that the situation is almost hopeless.

We will look into it—By the time the wheel makes a full turn, we assume that you will have forgotten about it, too.

A program — Any assignment that can't be completed by one telephone call.

Expedite—To confound confusion with commotion.

Channels—The trail left by interoffice memos.

Co-ordinator—The guy who has a desk between two expediters.

Consultant (or expert)—Any ordinary guy with a briefcase more than 50 miles away from home.

To activate—To make carbons and add more names to the memo.

To implement a program—Hire more people and expand the office.

Under consideration—We're looking in the files for it.

A meeting—A mass mulling by master-minds.

A conference—A place where conversation is substituted for the dreariness of labor and the loneliness of thought.

To negotiate — To seek a meeting of minds without knocking together of heads.

Re-orientation—Getting used to working again.

Reliable source — The guy you just met.

Informed source—The guy who told the guy you just met.

Unimpeachable source—The guy who started the rumor originally.

A clarification—To fill in the background with so many details that the foreground goes underground.

We are making a survey—We need more time to think of an answer.

Note and initial — Let's spread the responsibility for this.

See me, or let's discuss — Come down to my office, I'm lonesome.

We will advise you in due course—If we figure it out, we'll let you know.

Let's get together on this—I'm assuming you're as confused as I am.

Forwarded for your consideration—You hold the bag for a while.

Through New 'Scopes'

Starlight Gives Night Sight

WASHINGTON (NANA) — Army engineers have developed a revolutionary new device for "seeing in the dark" without being seen . . . the cascaded photosensitive image intensifier.

Intensive efforts to provide better night vision for troops, starting with the "Sniperscope" of the Second World War, have resulted in three practical devices.

LONGER LIFE

First is a greatly improved version of the old Sniperscope, a device which depended on the infrared, or "Black" light, coming from an object in the environment. The new model weighs less than the earlier one, has greater range and longer life, and is adaptable to a wide variety of infantry weapons.

Second is the "Metascope," a small viewer equipped with its own infrared source. With this, a soldier can turn beams of invisible light on near-by objects at night without revealing his position.

MOST SIGNIFICANT

Probably of greatest significance is the new image intensifier, which utilizes only reflected starlight or the diffused light from sky glow which falls upon the landscape.

It is essentially two television image tubes working in series combined with an optical system which focuses the reflected light and amplifies it sufficiently to present a distinguishable image to the eye.

Tests Prove It

Cold, Wind Both Count In Clothing

FORT KNOX, Ky. (NANA) —It's not just the cold, but the cold plus the wind that determines what kind of clothing you should wear.

At the U.S. army medical research laboratory here, a Wind Chill Table has been developed which tells troop commanders at a glance what are the real weather conditions—measured by thermometer plus wind—against which they must protect soldiers in the field.

BIG DIFFERENCE

Clinical testing shows, for example, that a wind of five miles an hour in an area with a temperature of 60 degrees has the same chilling effect on exposed flesh as a 23-degree temperature on a windless day.

The same wind of only five miles an hour at 45 degrees is the equivalent of a temperature of 11 degrees below zero, so far as the exposed skin is concerned.

The studies showed it was useless to take the temperature of the skin to determine when cold was "getting through" to a person exposed to the weather, because the human body adjusts itself constantly to maintain as nearly a normal body temperature as possible.

IMPORTANT THING

What really counts with those who are out in winter weather is "the effective external temperature environment on exposed skin and the tissues just below the surface," says the army's researchers.

They advise those who really want to know how cold a day it is to maintain a wind velocity meter on the front porch along with that thermometer.

Student Traffic 'Out of Hand'

A congestion of student-owned cars impeding traffic in the Oak Bay High School area has caused school officials to plan a parking lot behind the school, says Oak Bay Reeve George Murdoch.

Coun. W. G. Ellis said the situation "is getting out of hand." He was backed by Coun. F. A. Robinson who suggested signs be erected to prohibit parking between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Come home, Joe!

Russians Score 'First'

Atomic Icebreaker Will Reach Pole

MOSCOW (Reuters)—The world's first atomic surface ship, the Soviet icebreaker Lenin, is nearing completion at Leningrad and is to begin mooring trials in the spring.

Soviet scientists say it will be able to cut its way directly to the North Pole. Two helicopters will be carried aboard to reconnoitre ice conditions ahead.

The 16,000-ton vessel will be the most powerful icebreaker ever built, with its three nuclear reactors producing the power for engines developing 44,000 horsepower, or twice as much as the most powerful icebreaker now afloat.

The Lenin will be capable of cruising for years without refueling.

A large group of scientists will live aboard to attend to the reactors and take measurements of Arctic conditions.

But the Lenin's main task will be to keep open the northeastern trade route around the coastline of northern Siberia which provides an 11,000-mile link between the seaports of Murmansk and Vladivostock.

The Lenin, launched Dec. 5, 1957, is designed to cut a passage nearly 100 feet wide through ice of any thickness.

Its top speed will be 18 knots and it will be able to plow through ice up to nearly eight feet thick at a steady speed of two knots.

Traffic Fines

SAANICH

Thomas J. Lovatt, Hayfield, Man., careless driving, $35.

Jules Eugene Vocat, 1020 Pendergast, careless driving, $40 and restricted to driving for business only for one month.

CITY

Clarence B. Kozack, Work Point, careless driving, $35.

Allen C. Price, 4124 Hawkes, careless driving, $35.

Aileen A. Evans, 1392 Rockland, driving while under suspension, $50.

CITY

Wednesday

Stephen Erdelyi, 1921 Fernwood, no driver's licence, $25; failing to register motor vehicle, $10; no driver's licence (second charge), $30; no B.C. licence plates, $20.

Kenneth R. H. Tidbury, 1719 Emerson, exceeding 30, $25.

Vilhelm Hans Hatting, 236 Crease, failing to yield to an emergency vehicle, $20; passing red traffic light, $10.

William E. Swain, 2531 Cedar Hill, driving on wrong side of road, $10.

Foresters Elect Mrs. Ross

A joint installation of the Victoria branch of the Canadian Order of Foresters' officers was held by candlelight yesterday in the Knights of Pythias hall here.

Elected president of Lady Court Arbutus was Mrs. Babe Ross. Others chosen are: Alma Nute, vice-president; Mrs. Norma Mitchell, recording secretary; Mrs. Jean Woodbury, financial secretary; Mrs. Edith Hilton, treasurer; Mrs. Joyce Daindridge, chaplain; Mrs. Edith Hall, conductress.

New chief ranger of Court Columbia is Clement Bertrand. Others appointed are Don Mark, vice-chief ranger; Wes Guille, recording secretary; Les Draper, financial secretary; John Cutt, treasurer; Frank Mitchell, chaplain; other officers, Jim Munn, Joe Edgington, Walter Ward and Stanley Cooper.

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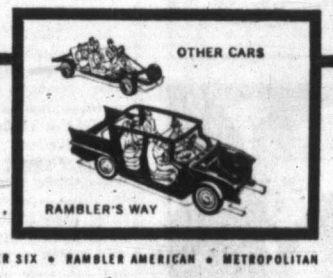

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